

Alaska Humanities Forum
Quarterly Report to the Denali Commission
September 30, 2000

This report is required to provide the Denali Commission with an update on the progress being made by Alaska Humanities Forum on the Community Toolbox. This report provides a summary of accomplishments to date.

Final Draft Community Strategic Plan Guide and Form

- Continued to refine the Strategic Plan Guide and Form.
- Researched methods for presenting the document.
- Completed search for appropriate art work that could potentially be incorporated into the guide.
- Created "Journey with a Unity of Purpose" graphic outlining the process for creating a plan.
- Formatted the guide and form document and enhanced its visual appearance.
- Refined the forms included with the document.
- Provided detailed examples of how a plan can be put together.
- Coordinated with other agencies in developing the Guide.
- Drafted "Project Scoping Sheet" and incorporated it into the Guide.
- Maintained quality control during production of Draft Community Strategic Plan Guide and Form.
- Distributed over 500 copies of the Guide to rural Alaskan communities by mail.
- Distributed additional copies of the Guide at public meetings, through other organizations, and upon request.
- Installed final draft of the Community Strategic Plan Guide and Form on the Denali Commission internet site.
- Planned for addressing Rural Development concepts-- specifically the Strategic Planning Guide and Form at upcoming EPA conference.
- Began to update the USDA-Rural Development Internet site incorporating the Strategic Plan Guide and Form and providing a link for the Resource Directory.
- Strategized a way to visually portray the Community Toolbox to other agency partners and to communities in rural Alaska.
- Created a graphic that visually portrays the Community Toolbox's connections other regional rural development events and opportunities.

Resource Directory

- Developed letter and forms to gather agency information for the directory.
- Finalized list of categories to be included in directory letter.

- Distributed directory categories for review to twenty different individuals, agencies and Tribes.
- Developed current data base of state and federal agencies.
- Acquired directories of specific service areas to be referred to in the directory.
- Conducted trial survey on USDA -Rural Development office staff to test run the directory forms before general mail-out.
- Finalized the letter and forms.
- Evaluated comments and results of trial survey for the directory.

Single Federal Pre-Application

- Initiated work on the on the one single federal pre-application form.

Additional Activities

- Coordinated session on Best Practices in project coordination and Community strategic planning to coincide wide with the Annual Alaska Federation of Natives Conference.
- Began coordinating with DEC and EPA to include Community Strategic Plan Guide and Form into ongoing 7 Generations Environmental Assessment Training for Tribes.
- Participated in preparation of Copper Center Funding Summit and the development of the Nome Funding Summit.
- Prepared a "Net Report" that high lights projects and programs being implemented by USDA-Rural Development in partnership with other resource agencies, including the Denali Commission.
- Presented the Community Strategic Plan and Form to the Alaska Federation of Natives Human Resource Committee on September 12, 2000.